

8th Arctic-Boreal Vulnerability Experiment (ABoVE) Science Team meeting (ASTM-8)

The 8th Arctic-Boreal Vulnerability Experiment (ABoVE) Science Team Meeting (ASTM-8) was held from May 9-12, 2022 in Fairbanks, Alaska, in conjunction with a Research to Operations (R2O) workshop with the Alaska land management community (May 12-13). ASTM-8 was a hybrid event with 109 registered in-person attendees meeting at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and 105 registered virtual attendees. The agenda included a mix of presentations from ABoVE thematic working groups and synthesis activities (such as Carbon Dynamics, Hydrology/Permafrost, and Fire Disturbance), as well as from ABoVE partners, collaborators, and local decision makers (such as the Alaska Fire Science Consortium, Polar Knowledge Canada, and others). The focus of the meeting was presenting and discussing ABoVE Phase 2 research results, and paving the way for the start of Phase 3 in 2023.

The plenary talks discussed campaign results from the more than 330 research papers and over 200 data products developed over the course of ABoVE. Representatives from 57 individual projects presented short talks in parallel, hybrid Research Highlights sessions, and in-person poster sessions. Breakout groups discussed developing research for Phase 3 and interfacing with decision-makers. The meeting encouraged representation by early career (EC) researchers and students through EC feedback forms, mentor/mentee matchups, and EC moderators of parallel sessions. Overall EC participation included 41 undergraduate and graduate students, 26 post-docs, and 52 early career researchers (less than 10 years since final degree). A [COVID mitigation plan](#) approved by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks was followed throughout the meeting. We were notified of a total of 7 COVID cases associated with ASTM8. The people they were in close contact with were informed. The UAF Director of Environmental Health, Safety, & Risk Management was debriefed and was satisfied with the execution of our plan.

